

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Added text is indicated by underlining, and deleted text is indicated by ~~strike through~~. Changes are identified by a vertical bar in the margin.

1-5. (canceled).

6. (previously presented) A pill box comprising:

a base having a pill cutting surface;

a lid connected to the base, the lid having a blade; and

a retractable blade guard secured to the base and engaging the lid, wherein the lid comprises a cam, and wherein the blade guard is threaded over the cam.

7. (Original) The pill box of claim 6, wherein the blade guard is retractable such that it covers the blade when the lid is open and retracts to expose the blade when the lid is closed.

8-18. (canceled).

19. (previously presented) A pill box comprising:

a base comprising a bottom side and a top side, the top side having a pill storage compartment, a pill cutting surface, and a pill grip coupled to the pill cutting surface;

a lid having a top side and a bottom side, the bottom side having a blade coupled thereto, wherein the lid is coupled to the base by one or more hinges;

a retractable blade guard coupled at one end to the bottom side of the base,

wherein the lid comprises a cam, and wherein the blade guard is threaded over the cam.

20-33. (canceled).

34. (Original) A pill box comprising:

a base comprising a bottom side and a top side, the top side having a pill storage compartment, a pill cutting surface, and a pill grip coupled to the pill cutting surface;

a lid having a proximal end with a cam and a bottom side having a blade coupled thereto, wherein the lid is coupled to the base by one or more hinges; and

a blade guard comprising a sheet coupled at one end to the bottom side of the base, wherein the blade guard is threaded over the cam and is retractable such that it covers the blade when the lid is open and retracts to expose the blade to the pill cutting surface when the lid is closed.

35. (Original) The pill box of claim 34, wherein the pill grip comprises a first holding arm and a second holding arm for adjustably centering a pill on the pill cutting surface into alignment with the blade.

36. (Original) The pill box of claim 35, wherein the first holding arm comprises a first portion that is rigidly coupled to the pill cutting surface and a second region that is flexibly coupled to the first portion, and wherein the second holding arm comprises a first portion that is rigidly coupled to the pill cutting surface and a second portion that is flexibly coupled to the first portion, the first portion of the first holding arm parallel to the first portion of the second holding arm, the second portion of the first holding arm and the second portion of the second holding arm inwardly biased toward one another.

37. (Original) The pill box of claim 34, wherein the bottom side of the lid comprises a first wall having a channel formed along its length and a second wall with a channel formed along its length, wherein the first and second walls run parallel with the each other and the blade, and wherein the channels face each other.

38. (Original) The pill box of claim 37, wherein the channels in the first and second walls receive the blade guard.

1 39-56. (canceled).

1 57. (previously presented) A kit comprising:

2 one or more pills; and

3 a pill box comprising:

4 a base having a pill cutting surface and a pill grip;

5 a lid connected to the base, the lid having a blade; and

6 a retractable blade guard secured to the base and engaging the lid,

7 wherein the lid comprises a cam, and wherein the blade guard is threaded over the

8 cam.

1 58-83. (canceled).